

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/700,454

Examiner

Vincent Q Nguyen

Applicant(s)

OISHI ET AL.

Art Unit

2858

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE 01/07/2005 and interview 02/03/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 25 August 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 2/3/2005.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other

*V. Nguyen* 02/04/2005  
Vincent Q. Nguyen  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 2858  
**VINCENT Q. NGUYEN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

## DETAILED ACTION

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Juliana Haydoutova on February 4, 2005.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

After the title insert:

This Application is a division of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/088,605 filed 03/19/2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,474,277, which is a 371 of PCT/JP00/05574, filed 08/18/2000.

In the claims

1. (Previously Presented) A frequency measurement circuit for measuring a frequency of an input signal, comprising:

a frequency measurement unit for counting a reference clock during a counting period having a predetermined number of waves of the input signal, wherein the frequency measurement unit counts the reference clock by ~~[[using]]~~ assigning a lighter amount of weighting to each count at a starting time and an ending time of the counting

Art Unit: 2858

period, ~~[[than]]~~ compared to the amount of weighting at the other times of the counting period, wherein the amount of weighting is a minimum value at the starting time and the ending time of the counting period.

2. (Previously Presented) The frequency measurement circuit according to Claim 1, ~~wherein the amount of weighting is a minimum value at the starting time and the ending time of the counting period,~~ the amount of weighting increases as the counting operation progresses away from the starting time, and the amount of weighting decreases as the counting operation gets near to the ending time.

8. (New) A frequency measurement circuit for measuring a frequency of an input signal, comprising:

an input signal wave number measurement unit for counting a reference clock during a counting period having a predetermined number of waves of the input signal; and a weight assigning wave number measurement circuit for assigning a weight to each count in the counting period;

wherein the weight assigning wave number measurement circuit assigns a lighter weight to a count at a starting time and an ending time of the counting period, compared to the weights assigned to counts at all other times of the counting period, wherein the amount of weighting is a minimum value at the starting time and the ending time of the counting period.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1-8 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach or suggest a frequency measurement circuit for measuring a frequency of an input signal having a frequency measurement unit counts the reference clock by assigning a lighter amount of weighting to each count at a starting time and an ending time of the counting period wherein the amount of weighting is a minimum value at the starting time and the ending time of the counting period, as recited in the independent claim 1; a weight assigning wave number measurement circuit for assigning a weight to each count in the counting period wherein the amount of weighting is a minimum value at the starting time and the ending time of the counting period, as recited in the independent claim 8; and in combination of the claims.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### ***Contact Information***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vincent Q Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2234. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eddie Lefkowitz can be reached on (571) 272-2180. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Nguyen", with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

February 4, 2005

Vincent Q. Nguyen  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2858